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(54) Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF METAL COATED STEEL PRODUCTS

(57) Abstract: The present invention is related to a method for the production of metal coated steel products, comprising the steps of: providing a steel product with a metal coating; adding an additional metallic element to said coating; subjecting said product to a thermal treatment, characterized in that: prior to the addition of said additional element, said product is subjected to a plasma treatment via a dielectric barrier discharge, for cleaning and activating the surface of said coating; said additional element is added through a physical vapour deposition technique; said thermal treatment is applied by directing high energy infra red radiation towards the outer surface of said coating. The present invention is further related to an apparatus comprising: a means for performing a plasma treatment on a metal coated product; a means for adding an additional element to said coating by using a physical vapour deposition technique; a means for directing high energy infra red radiation towards the outer surface of said coating.



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